Pending schemes of Himachal Pradesh

† 462. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various schemes of Himachal Pradesh which are pending for clearance;

(b) since when they are pending and the action taken by Government thereon; and

(c) by when the decision is likely to be taken on the pending schemes and projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) No Scheme pertaining to Himachal Pradesh is pending with the Planning Commission for investment clearance.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Road Projects in Bihar

463. SHRI LEKHRAJ BACHANI: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry is thinking to review the planning of former Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that State Government of Bihar and land owners in Bihar are not co-operating with the engineers staff and labour involved in the work of national Highway in Bihar;

(c) whether it is a fact that progress of new works in Bihar is not according to schedule;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor;

(e) whether Road Authority of India has asked for help; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) This Ministry is responsible for development and maintenance of National

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Highways. The development programme of the Ministry as planned earlier will continue in respect of National Highways.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Some of the sanctioned works get delayed due to problems of land acquisition, shifting of utilities, cutting of trees and law and order for National Highways Development Project. For other National Highways, some works get delayed due to erratic supply of Bitumen and slack performance of the contractor.

(e) and (f) Presumably, the Hon'ble Member is referring to National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). The NHAI has been seeking the help of the Government of Bihar from time to time for resolving the problems encountered during the implementation of the works. The situation has now improved with the steps taken.

Separate Road Maintenance Fund

464. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Bank has proposed a separate "Road Maintenance Fund" through fuel tax and user charges for development of Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of Government thereto;

(d) the amount World Bank has invested in India's transport sector during the last three years, year-wise; and

(e) the manner in which the said amount has been utilised and the extent of work done?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) and (e) The information is being collected.